

File Code:

1950

Date:

September 27, 2016

Wally Sykes Northeast Oregon Ecosystems captmayo@eoni.com

Dear Mr. Sykes:

Thank you for sharing your thoughts about the Lostine Project on the Wallowa-Whitman National Forest.

The Forest is working closely with the community on the Lostine Project as they analyze the proposal following authorized planning processes under the NEPA. I hear your concerns about the Lostine Project and I recognize it is common to have different perspectives regarding National Forest projects due to the diverse interests within the communities where we work. However, I understand that there is generally broad support from the local communities in Wallowa County regarding the Lostine Project.

I am pleased to hear you are a member of the Wallowa-Whitman Forest Collaborative (WWFC). These collaborative efforts across the Region are important in furthering forest stewardship and connecting the Forest Service with local communities. As a member of the WWFC you will be aware of collaboration principles, including working closely with diverse interests in local communities on resolving issues and seeking agreements. As such, I encourage you to work with the Wallowa Mountains Office to help address your issues with the Lostine Project and clarify aspects of the project about which you have concerns.

Please feel free to contact Kris Stein, District Ranger, at krisstein@fs.fed.us or 541-426-5501, if you have any further questions.

Sincerely,

THOMAS MONTOYA

Forest Supervisor

cc: krisstein@fs.fed.us; Karen_Wagner@merkley.senate.gov;

kathleen_cathey@wyden.senate.gov; mary_gautreaux@wyden.senate.gov



